GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2319
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
POLLUTION DUE TO SHIP BREAKING INDUSTRY
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment of the extent of pollution caused by ship breaking industry has been made;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a French ship clearance is presently parked at one of the Indian dock-yards;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has appointed a technical committee to assess the pollution caused by ship breaking industry recently;

(f) if so, the terms and reference thereof; and

(g) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORSTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (g): The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has carried out a study for the assessment of pollution potential from ship breaking activities. The study covers the status of the ship breaking industries, inventory of materials present in the ship, potential sources of pollutions, etc. Guidelines to mitigate the environmental impacts due to ship breaking activities have been formulated by the CPCB and circulated to all the State Pollution Control Boards and the Pollution Control Committees in Union Terriroties for implementation.

The Hon`ble Supreme Court of India on 17th February, 2006, in its recent order, in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No.657 of 1995 in the context of the French ship Clemenceau, which was scheduled to reach earlier at the Ship-breaking yard at Alang in Gujarat for breaking, has directed to constitute a Committee of technical experts to find out whether the infrastructure as existing at the ship breaking yard at Alang presently is adequate. If according to the Committee, it is not, the Committee is to indicate the deficiencies, and also suggest remedial measures to upgrade the infrastructural facilities. The Committee has been asked to submit its report within 8 (eight) weeks.

The French ship `Clemenceau` is not been parked at any of the Indian ship breaking yards and the same has already been called back by the Government of France.